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To: Mr. Jeff Nelson	**From:** Steve Alvo
Application/Control Number: 08/848,434	**Art Unit:** 1731
Fax No.: 703-816-4100	**Phone No.:** 703-308-2048
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Re: Page 3 09/848,434	**CC:**

☐ **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☐ **For Comment** ☐ **For Reply** ☒ **Per Your Request**

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section. The CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243,733 teaches using impervious protrusions 53, 122, 40 (Figure 3) and 84, Figures 16A and 16B, which extend into the vessel at locations offset from the screens in portions of the vessel that are hollow. The CANADIAN PATENT also teaches that these protrusions typically extend 6 inches into the vessel (page 2, line 14) or Figure 20 shows the protrusions to extend 12 inches into the vessel. If necessary, it would have been obvious to the artisan that the step-out protrusions of CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243.733 would be 6 inches as such is typical in the art. The CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243,733 teaches such a design allows for "column relief", page 7, lines 18-23. If necessary, RICH teaches using a screening surface having a space from the vessel surface of % to 2 inches (column 3, lines 54-57). It would have been obvious to structure the protrusions of the CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243,733 (Figures 3 and 16 A and B) to the depth taught by RICH so they correspond to the depth of the screens (43) in the CANADIAN PATENT. See CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243,733, Figure 19 for triangular shaped protrusions. See Figures 12 and 13 for a perimeter defined by the protrusions of a hollow region. See Figure 13 for the screen assembly vertically offset from protrusion 82.

The argument that the protrusions of the CANADIAN PATENT is not convincing as the drawings show 53, 122, 40 (Fig. 3) and 84, Figures 16A, 16B, Figure 13 as solid lines, which would indicate that the protrusions are solid. See also CANADIAN PATENT APPLICATION 2,243,733, page 9, lines 8-10 where the conical transition sections may be continuous. See also page 9, line 1 for teaching other geometries.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it